

IN THE UNITED STATES	S PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
IN THE UNITED STATES (Case	No. 99-372-A)
4	PATENT
Application of: Welcher et al.	)
Serial No.: 09/724,860	) Before the Examiner: J. Andres
Filed: November 28, 2000	) Group Art Unit: 1646
For: Interferon-like Molecules and Uses Thereof	RECEIVED
	<b>MAR 0 6</b> 2002
Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231	TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Madam:

## **RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED AUGUST 24, 2001**

Responsive to the Office Action, mailed August 24, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

## **AMENDMENTS**

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the following amendments.

## In the Specification:

Please insert the following paragraph at page 1, line 3:

This application claims the benefit of priority from U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/169,720, filed on December 8, 1999, the disclosure of which is explicitly incorporated by reference herein.

## In the Claims:

Please amend the following claims:

1. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising:

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